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**REPUBLICAN DELEGATION WELCOMES
SENATOR ELBERT GUILLORY
TO THE REPUBLICAN PARTY**

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA -- State Senator Elbert Guillory (R–Opelousas) announced his switch to the Republican Party today at a conference for black conservatives in Baton Rouge, after receiving the Frederick Douglas Republican Award. His switch is an historical one for the delegation as the Senate Delegation membership rises to a new high of twenty-five members, with the total delegation membership now at eighty-three legislators. Senator Guillory is also the delegation's first African-American member.

Senator Danny Martiny, chairman of the Senate Delegation, welcomes Senator Guillory to the Republican Delegation, noting that, "Although we have always counted on Senator Guillory for his conservative votes, we are glad to see that he has made it official. The Republican Party is always open to good conservatives and he is one of the best."

Senator Guillory was first elected to the State Senate in a special election in 2009 and re-elected in 2011. He previously served in the House of Representatives from 2007 to 2009. His Senate District 24 lies in the heart of Acadiana encompassing Opelousas and parts of Lafayette and Breaux Bridge. He is chairman of the Senate Committee on Retirement and also serves on the Education, Health and Welfare, and Judiciary C Committees as well as the Senate Select Committee on Veterans Affairs.

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